

Memo to Walter Reed BRAC Integration Committee from Ilaya Hopkins, Chair

June 4, 2012

This memo is the product of the Committee's April 17, 2012 meeting, when it was agreed that the Chair would convene a small group of members to discuss at length the future operations of the Committee, including a new name to more accurately reflect its new mission since the September 2011 completion of the BRAC consolidation at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda.

In September, 2011, The National Naval Medical Center formally became the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center through the BRAC 2005 legislation. In 2007, Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett established the BRAC Implementation Committee to follow the BRAC process and advise his administration of impacts on the local community. With the completion of the BRAC, the BIC also concluded its tenure per the original Executive Order.

Because much of the work outside the fence is yet to be completed, there is still a need to have a forum to share information about the traffic impacts in the immediate vicinity of the base. The work of the subcommittee will conclude when the Federal money allocated for key intersection work and the Route 355 crossing are spent.

The Western Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) has established a subcommittee to convene every other month, or at least quarterly. **The focus of the group is to monitor County and State work plans and progress and ensure changes being made with Federal resources to the transportation infrastructure are integrated to meet the needs of the broader community.** Other work in the area, to the extent that it impacts traffic in and around the base, will also be included for discussion to inform the broader picture.

The subcommittee will focus on **issues that impact the area as a whole**. The committee will not take up as an agenda item any issue that is specific to an individual community or involves a resolution between two or more communities. Individual communities are encouraged to work with the State or County as necessary to raise those concerns and work through them accordingly.

The proposed name of the subcommittee is the Walter Reed BRAC Integration Committee. It is chaired by a member of the Western Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Board and follows standards for county committees as outlined on the county website at

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgtmpl.asp?url=/content/exec/boards/policy.asp>

Membership on the subcommittee is voluntary and is primarily for neighborhood representatives of communities that are in the direct proximity of the base. Key institutional stakeholders are also encouraged to participate. Meetings are open to the public and summaries of the meetings are available. Community representatives speak on behalf of their communities. Members of the community will have a chance to speak if they do not have a community representative on the committee.

If the subcommittee would like to make a formal recommendation to the County Executive, a report will be delivered to the CAB which will determine whether or not to write a letter expressing the view of the subcommittee.

The next Committee meeting is Tuesday evening, June 19, at which time this agreement will be formally adopted by the Committee.